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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-first session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Ayman M. **Elgammal** (Egypt)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

(Item 4 (a))

Section 24, Palestine refugees

1. At its 28th meeting, on 28 June 2001, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 24, Palestine refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the budget section and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

3. Strong support for UNRWA was expressed. The substantive progress in the management of the Programme was applauded.

4. Appreciation and praise were expressed for the laudable courage demonstrated by the staff of UNRWA in carrying out its humanitarian mandates often under very difficult conditions.

5. Views were expressed that section 24 contained one of the best formulations of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. It was felt that the formulation could be used as a model for other budget sections.

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6. It was noted that 96.8 per cent of UNRWA resources were from extrabudgetary sources. A view was expressed that the ratio between regular budget and extrabudgetary resources was a gauge of the success of the programme. In view of increasing financial requirements and difficulties in raising voluntary contributions, a view was expressed that the donor base should be expanded to include the private sector. Appreciation was expressed for the donors and they were encouraged to continue contributing to the Agency. The success of UNRWA in the recent appeal for funds was noted with appreciation.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 24, Palestine refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, subject to the following modifications:

Paragraph 24.14 (b)

Insert the word "some" between "by" and "host" in the first line.